

BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT RECREATION FEE PROGRAM SUMMARY

FY11 ACCOMPLISHMENTS

NAME OF FEE PROJECT: AZ07 LAKE HAVASU RECREATION SITES
AMENITY FEE PROGRAM

STATE: AZ

Fee Project Contact: Myron McCoy

Phone: 928-505-1216

Email: myron_mccoy@blm.gov

DESCRIPTION:

The BLM Lake Havasu Field Office (LHFO) oversees more than 140 miles of the lower Colorado River, including 20-miles of Lake Havasu shoreline. Ten million annual visitors are attracted to the area primarily for the world class water-based recreation opportunities. Camping, hiking, wildlife-watching, vacation resorts and OHV activities are also major parts of the Lake Havasu Recreation Program which is supported through amenity fees.

The BLM manages 87 designated campsites dispersed along 20 miles of Arizona shoreline on Lake Havasu. The sites are accessible for use and maintenance only by boat and their popularity has increased greatly since Lake Havasu Field Office assumed management in 1997. Since then virtually all the sites amenities have been repaired or replaced including restrooms, barbecue grills, picnic tables, stanchions for tying up boats and watercraft, shade ramadas, litter and trash removal, and beaches. Based on each site's location, additional improvements have been necessary retaining walls for bank stabilization, pathways connecting restrooms and other sites, steps and hand rails are installed. Each site has different terrain, vistas, beaches, trails, and shoreline access, including connection to other campsites.

LHFO manages two boat and watercraft launch facilities, one on the lake the other on the Colorado River below Parker Dam. The Take Off Point launch is on the south end of Lake Havasu near Parker Dam, and is free to the public providing an accessible double ramp, dock, vehicle/trailer parking areas, restrooms, and nearby shoreline public fishing area, accessible fishing pier and picnic area.

In addition, the BLM Lake Havasu Field Office manages a free public fishing access areas and two concession resorts along the shoreline of Lake Havasu. Below Lake Havasu and Parker Dam, the Colorado River creates a historic channel called the Parker Strip. The Parker Strip has become a river recreation magnet for the summer months and snowbird destination due to the mild winter weather evolving into a year-round recreation area. Water based recreation along the 11-mile stretch is the key attraction. The slow moving waterway is ideal for skiing, boating, fishing and all types of water sports. As on the Lake to the north, recreation use can be intense. In the winter, many recreational vehicle (RV) sites are full for months at a time, rather than just weekends. Within the Parker Strip Recreation Area, you'll find:

- 10 Concession Resorts with RV & tent camping, vacation mobile homes, convenience stores, marinas, restaurants, overnight rooms, boat storage and fuel
- Bullfrog Day Use Area

- Crossroads Campground
- Empire Landing Campground
- Parker Dam Road National Back Country Byway
- The Copper Basin Dunes and Crossroads OHV Open Areas
- Rockhouse Information Center and Boat Launch

The Rockhouse Boat Launch in the Parker Strip is on the California side of the Colorado River, below Parker Dam and free to the public. The facility provides a double ramp, ample parking, visitor information center, restrooms, a walking path along the river shoreline and volunteer hosts.

The Lake Havasu Field Office's Recreation Amenity Fee Site Program also includes the sale and management of the America the Beautiful Interagency Passes and a regional pass called the BLM Annual Recreation Pass, Lake Havasu Field Office.

SPECIFIC ACCOMPLISHMENTS IN FY11:

Visitor Services, Interpretation:

During FY 2011, 25% of this project's fee revenue expenditures were related to providing interpretive and environmental education services to the public, while the cost of collections (accounting) amounted to 3%, and program administration amounted to 3%.

Repair, Maintenance, and Facility Enhancement:

During FY 2011, 50% of the recreation revenues that were expended went towards purchase and installation of annual maintenance tasks and projects at the various fee sites, while another 11% went towards deferred maintenance tasks and projects.

Law Enforcement – Public Use and Recreation:

Issuing and managing the use permits accounted for 4% of this project's fee revenue expenditures while actual law enforcement at the fee sites used 3% of the total expended fee revenues.

PROJECTS/ACTIVITIES PLANNED FOR NEXT YEAR (FY12)

Recreation fee revenues will be used for the continued maintenance of amenity fee sites at LHFO, including trash collection and cleaning. Funds will also be used to upkeep the condition of the Lake Havasu shoreline patrol.